



2026 Easter Reflections

The National Spirituality Committee wishes you and your loved ones the blessings of the Easter season. For your meeting, please choose one or combination.

Serving with Joy of the Risen Lord

He is not here; he has risen. (Luke 24:5)

The celebration of Easter remains with us for 50 glorious days as we ponder the Resurrection stories filled with hope and joy. As Vincentians, we are presented with the opportunity to enter these stories in unique ways. We are called to be Easter people bearing witness in our actions to the love and joy of God alive within us. Easter joy comes from encountering others in meaningful ways and lovingly attending to their needs. Serving those in need with our Vincentian spirituality is a way to share in the joy of the Resurrection. Whenever we do our good Vincentian work, we continue to relive the solemn story of Jesus' Resurrection. We tell others Jesus is alive not only by providing food, clothing, and necessities but by listening with compassion and understanding hearts. As we live out our Vincentian vocation, may we have the openness to see Him in every person, place and situation and respond with love. When the joyful hope of Easter resonates in us, we become loving witnesses of the Risen Christ to those we serve. *During this beautiful Easter Season, perhaps we consider accepting some new responsibility. In small or big ways, we can be for those in need, an image of the Risen Lord who desires fullness of life, hope and the opportunity to begin anew and rise with Him.*

**Carolyn Boerboom, National Spirituality Committee member
St. Basil's Conference/Brant, ON Particular Council**

Living Hope of the Risen Christ through Service

In all things I have shown you that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'. (Acts 20:35)

As Vincentians, Easter calls us to a deep change of heart and a renewed commitment to live the Gospel through our service. The Resurrection of Jesus is not only a moment of joy we celebrate, but a mission we are sent to share. When we visit and accompany our neighbours in need, we bring more than food, clothing, or financial assistance—we carry the living hope of the Risen Christ and the promise tomorrow can be brighter. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek the courage and wisdom to go beyond direct support, helping families discover resources and opportunities that can strengthen their dignity and help build a more hopeful future. In this way, our acts of charity become a living witness to Christ's love present in the world.

As we celebrate Easter, we might prayerfully ask ourselves: *How is the Risen Lord calling us to let Him work courageously in our hearts so we can bring hope, dignity, and the light of His Resurrection to those we serve?*

**Willis Langford, Spiritual Facilitator
St. Mary's (Brampton, ON)/Peel North Particular Council/Greater Toronto Central Council**

Being Renewed by Greater Understanding of those We Serve

Christ resurrection is not an event in the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly springs up... Values always

tend to reappear under new guises, and human beings have arisen time from situations that seemed doomed. Such is the power of resurrection... (Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*)

In encounters with Jesus, people were brought a new life physically and in Him - a man born blind receiving sight and another ill for 38 years healed, and many others.

As we trust the Resurrection's transformative ways, we as Vincentians may need our hearts be renewed in how we deal with our neighbours in need. Do we face challenges to dealing with them when their personal issues and needs persist? Do we allow our judgment and standards influence choices to how we serve them? Do we hold back from helping in all possible ways, as our Vincentian values guide us with? Do we fail to discern their conditions and see their struggles - beyond material assistance - with greater conviction? How do we with meaning concretely walk alongside them?

May our Lord's Resurrection – our faith's foundation – draw us His disciples into deeper understanding our neighbours in need, and be better companions to them.

Jose I. Torres, National Spirituality Committee chair
Peel North Particular Council/Greater Toronto Central Council

Reflection Question

As Vincentians, how do we echo and radiate the joy, the newness and the message of the Risen Christ?

Let us pray... May every Easter Season renew in us the commitment to freely, fully and firmly fulfill our Vincentian calling seeking, sharing and spreading love, joy and compassion to all those we meet. May our neighbours and we rise with Him always. Amen.

For those interested in contributing spiritual reflections, please email jose.torres@rogers.com. Also, for reflections that may be used in your group meeting's spirituality segment, please check out: Monthly Reflections - Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - National Council of Canada.